

CLAIMS PENDING AFTER AMENDMENT

1 48. (Amended) A method of conferring resistance to pathogenic fungi on
2 a plant, the method comprising the steps of:
3 transforming a plant cell with an expression vector, wherein said
4 expression vector comprises:
5 an expression cassette comprising a first plant promoter induced by
6 stress operably linked to a DNA sequence encoding sarcotoxin 1a; and
7 a second plant promoter which is constitutively expressed and positioned
8 adjacent to the first plant promoter, and
9 regenerating the transformed plant cell into a transgenic plant wherein the
10 transgenic plant has enhanced resistance to pathogenic fungi as compared to a
11 corresponding untransformed plant.

1 49. (Amended) The method according to claim 48, wherein the
2 pathogenic fungi are *Rhizoctonia solani*, *Pythium aphanidermatum*, and *Phytophthora*
3 *infestans*.

1 52. (Amended) The method according to claim 48, wherein said
2 expression vector further comprises a drug resistance gene operably linked to the second
3 plant promoter.

1 53. (Amended) The method according to claim 48, wherein a plant gene
2 is fused to the DNA sequence encoding sarcotoxin 1a via the hinge region of a tobacco
3 chitinase gene.

1 54. (Amended) The method according to claim 48, wherein a DNA
2 sequence encoding a signal peptide from a plant gene is fused to and positioned between
3 the first plant promoter and the DNA sequence encoding sarcotoxin 1a.

1 55. The method according to claim 48, wherein the promoter induced by
2 stress is the promoter of the tobacco PR-1a gene.

1 56. (Amended) The method according to claim 52, wherein the
2 expression cassette further comprises the terminator of the tobacco PR-1a gene operably
3 linked downstream of the DNA sequence encoding sarcotoxin 1a.

1 57. The method according to claim 48, wherein the second plant promoter
2 is the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter.

1 58. (Amended) A transgenic plant which is resistant to pathogenic fungi,
2 the plant comprising an expression vector, wherein the expression vector comprises:
3 i) a first expression cassette comprising a DNA sequence encoding
4 sarcotoxin 1a operably linked to a promoter induced by stress; and
5 ii) a second expression cassette comprising a drug resistance gene
6 operably linked to a constitutively expressed promoter,
7 wherein the first and second expression cassettes are positioned adjacent to each other,
8 and wherein the transgenic plant has enhanced resistance to pathogenic fungi as
9 compared to a corresponding untransformed plant.

1 59. The plant according to claim 58, wherein the pathogenic fungi are
2 *Rhizoctonia solani*, *Pythium aphanidermatum*, and *Phytophthora infestans*.

1 62. (Amended) The plant according to claim 58, wherein a plant gene is
2 fused to the DNA sequence encoding sarcotoxin 1a via the hinge region of a tobacco
3 chitinase gene.

1 63. (Amended) The plant according to claim 58, wherein a DNA
2 sequence encoding a signal peptide from a plant gene is fused to and positioned between
3 the plant promoter and the DNA sequence encoding sarcotoxin 1a in the first expression
4 cassette.

1 64. The plant according to claim 58, wherein the promoter induced by
2 stress is the promoter of the tobacco PR-1a gene.

1 65. (Amended) The plant according to claim 58, wherein the first
2 expression cassette further comprises the terminator of the tobacco PR-1a gene operably
3 linked downstream of the DNA sequence encoding sarcotoxin 1a.

1 66. The plant according to claim 58, wherein the constitutively expressed
2 promoter is the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter.

1 67. (Amended) The plant according to claim 58, wherein the expression
2 vector further comprises a T-DNA region.